States and Union Territories for procurement of hardware, office automation packages, training of manpower and development of application software for computerisation up to the division level offices of the line departments. The total Central funds released to States/Uts under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission is Rs. 8923.73 lakhs (as on 26.7.2002).

The Ministry undertook a pilot project for providing VSAT connectivity to 15 District Rural Development Agencies{DRDAs) for providing internet facilities and a web based software for poverty alleviation and rural development programmes. The pilot project has been taken up in 15 districts in 11 States, namely Anantpur and Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh, Thanjavur and Perambalur in Tamil Nadu, Etawah in Uttar Pradesh, Hosangabad, Narsinghpur and Jaisen in Madhya Pradesh, Solan in Himachal Pradesh, Hazaribagh in Jharkhand, Midnapur in West Bengal, Shillong in Meghalya, Chandrapur in Maharashtra, Sikar in Rajasthan and Almora in Uttranchal. The project endeavors to establish a system for flow in information in respect of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Employment Assurance Scheme{EAS), Indira Awaas Yojana(IAY) and Watershed programmes. The total Capital cost of the project is Rs.99.00 lakhs. The implementing Agency for the project is National Informatics Centre(NlC) and no funds have been allocated/released to the States.

E-Commerce/E-Gover nance

3002. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Net penetration in e-commerce in the country;

(b) the percentage of net penetration in e-governnance; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase its percentage in different fields/ sectors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATIONTECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) the total Net penetration in India is estimated to be 0.375% of population in September 2002. Sector-wise details of Net penetration are not available with the Government.

(c) The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing E-Commerce Service for the NICNET in Customs Computerization Project and helping Central/State Governments in developing and implementing their E-Governance plans.

Modernization of Postal Services in A.P.

3003. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONSAND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGYbe pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan for development and modernization of postal sen/ices in urban and rural areas of Andhra Pradesh during the year 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for expansion programme of postal services in urban and rural areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (c) For the development and modernization of postal services in urban and rural areas in the country, a number of activities and programmes are formulated under Five Year Plans, which are then implemented in successive Annual Plans. The details of the Annual Plan 2002-03 which are for the entire country are given in Statement (see below). The department does not draw up State-wise plans. On completion of necessary formalities, funds are allocated to different circles for development and modernisation of postal services.

Statement

Annual Plan (2002-03) - Financial Outlay

SI. No.	Plan Scheme	Financial Outlay (Rs. incrores)
1	- Expansion of postal network	3.41
2	Computerisation of post offices (installation of multi purpose counter machines). Accounts and	38.86